

REMARKS

Status of the Claims:

The Office Action dated April 7, 2004 has been received and reviewed by the applicant. Claims 1-7 are in the application. Claims 1-7 stand rejected. Claim 1 is amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection - 35 USC § 112

Claims 5-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In response, claim 5 is amended for clarity.

Claim Rejection - 35 USC § 102

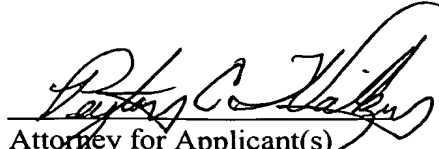
Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,960,173). The entirety of the rejection is not repeated herein for clarity. In response, claim 1 is amended to include "wherein the host controls which of the plurality of images is displayed based on current discussion in the interactive communication derived from the displayable text." Tang et al., in contrast, disclose *pre-programmed* software that simply displays the participants according to the *pre-designed* software and does not permit human judgment by the host, as in the claimed invention, so that continuous and spontaneous images can be displayed based on the text. Obviously, this includes an advantage of which the prior art is devoid.

Summary

Should the Examiner consider that additional amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the favor is requested of a telephone call to the undersigned counsel for the purpose of discussing such amendments.

For the reasons set forth above, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and favorable action are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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